

Serial No.: 10/633,488
ST03004USU (172-US-U1)

Remarks

Claims 1-34 are pending in the present application. Applicants have amended claim 2, 9 and 34, while deleting claims 1, 32 and 33. No inferences about the deleted claims 1, 32, and 33 should be made other than the claims have been deleted to expedite the allowance of this application. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims.

Response to 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 9, 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rabinowitz (US 6,373,432) in view of Hanson (US 2003/0125877). Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 32 and 33, while claim 9 is now dependent on an allowable independent claim 2.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections are now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge that claims 2-8, 10-31, and 34 are in condition for allowance, with claims 2-8 and 34 being amended to be allowable independent claims or to depend from allowable independent claims.

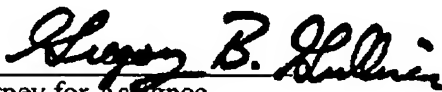
Therefore, claims 2-31 and 34 are in condition for allowance.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing discussion and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-31 and 34 as now presented are in a condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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